

Biden was able to sign into law Juneteenth as a national holiday.

Reverend Myers was founder of numerous medical and cultural organizations and a committed physician, serving the poorest Americans through clinics in Tchula, Belzoni, Yazoo City, Indianola, Greenville, and Tupelo, Mississippi.

Doc was also a jazz musician, composer, and human rights activist. The New York Times stated: "There aren't many doctors like Ronald Myers, a jazz-playing, Baptist-preaching, family practitioner whose dream has always been to practice medicine in the kind of place most other doctors wouldn't even stop for a tank of gas."

In 1994, a group of community leaders from across the country gathered at Christian Unity Baptist Church in New Orleans, Louisiana, to work for greater national recognition of Juneteenth, a holiday celebrating the end of slavery. Dr. Myers was elected chairman of this advocacy effort, which led to the establishment of the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation and his recognition as the leader of the modern Juneteenth movement in America. Doc was instrumental in the passage of 45 of the 49 State and District of Columbia pieces of legislation naming Juneteenth as a day of observance in this country.

Working with the Congressional Black Caucus, which included Illinois Senator Barack Obama and Representative DANNY DAVIS, he sought legislation to recognize Juneteenth independence, hosting the annual Juneteenth prayer breakfasts.

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He established the Washington Juneteenth National Holiday Observance and the National Day of Reconciliation and Healing from the Legacy of Enslavement, which includes the National Juneteenth Black Holocaust "Maafa" Memorial Service.

Dr. Myers organized the National Association of Juneteenth Jazz Presenters and the Fellowship of Creative Christian Jazz Musicians. Under his leadership, the Washington Juneteenth congressional event was held by the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation, Juneteenth America, Inc., and the National Association of Juneteenth Jazz Presenters.

An accomplished jazz pianist, trumpeter, and composer, Dr. Myers performed across the country promoting "June is Black Music Month!"—Celebrating Juneteenth Jazz—"Preserving Our African American Jazz Legacy!"

For over 20 years, he met with State politicians, local Juneteenth organizations, and community leaders.

Charles Taylor, author of Juneteenth, said: "Doc would give a copy of my Juneteenth book to every Governor who made Juneteenth a holiday or observance. He even gave Sarah Palin a copy when she was the Governor of Alaska after her State recognized Juneteenth."

At an award ceremony at the Beverly Hills Temple of the Arts at the Saban Theatre, founder Rabbi David Baron said: "Reverend Dr. Ronald V. Myers is an outstanding living model of all the values for which Martin Luther King stood."

Thanks to Steve Williams, who has carried on Dr. Myers' work; and my staffer, Dr. Caleb Gilchrist, who has worked closely with him.

Thank you, Dr. Myers, and may you rest in peace.

#### KANSAS IS THE BREADBASKET OF THE WORLD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kansas farmers for their long hours during this year's wheat harvest and for their work to produce food for people all over the world.

With more than 15,000 wheat farms across the State and 5 million acres of wheat in the Big First District alone, Kansas leads the Nation in wheat production, is the largest exporter of hard red winter wheat, and is aptly named the breadbasket of the world.

The United States exports that wheat to more than 100 countries around the world, and some of that wheat from Kansas ends up abroad under the U.S. food assistance programs, like Food for Peace. In fact, it was the Kansas Farm Bureau who began sending surplus grain to those in need around the world, continuing U.S. leadership in addressing world hunger.

As I reflect on my own time on our family farm in Quinter, Kansas, I am reminded that harvest season is about more than just harvesting the crop. For Kansas farm families and communities, harvest is about coming together.

Harvest is when we share tractors and other equipment with our neighbor when theirs gets stuck. Harvest is when a grandmother takes food to the field so the rest of her family doesn't have to leave the field for a lunch break. It is when a father takes his child out on the combine to show him how the work is done. And it is when we reflect on our advancements in agriculture, thanks to land-grant universities, like the wheat breeding research at Kansas State University, yielding high-quality and plentiful harvests around the world.

Wheat harvest is a time for Kansas to be proud of the great strides they take to feed, fuel, and clothe the world. At the end of the season, we look back and know that each agricultural success is inexplicably tied to our Kansas values of faith, family, community, and grit. While we are at work here in Washington, they are back at home making the world go round, and for that we owe farmers our sincerest thank you.

THE RIGHT TO LIFE IS SELF-EVIDENT

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I also rise today in support of one of the most

basic functions of any government, the right to life.

Our Founding Fathers wrote 245 years ago, "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

To them, the right to life was so overly obvious that they called it self-evident.

But, today, in America, some policymakers insist on denying the right to life to millions of Americans. Instead, they diminish that right through murderous abortion policies, policies that fail to recognize life until a child lets out his or her first cry in the delivery room, policies that justify abortion based on the belief that any unborn child may have Down syndrome, and policies that funnel taxpayer dollars to funding abortions and abortion services.

Today's technology and science has shown us proof of life inside the womb. We see 3D ultrasounds of a baby sucking her thumb and moving around. We know unborn babies can experience pain as early as 12 weeks. At 20 weeks, we can reveal if a baby is a boy or a girl.

Yet some of our country's leaders still proceed to support policies that devalue and eliminate the innocent child's life. For decades, these elected officials have spent more time protecting the right of potentially endangered species, like the lesser prairie-chicken or sea turtle eggs, than they do protecting unborn babies, human babies.

But not to me. I strongly believe life begins at conception. I believe every life matters. I support adoptions, foster care, and crisis pregnancy centers that work tirelessly to care for mothers and their babies. I have cosponsored pro-life legislation, including H.R. 18, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, permanently prohibiting Federal funding for abortions and abortion services. I even introduced my own, H.R. 714, which would require the executive branch to notify Congress and the American public before issuing any new executive order pertaining to pro-life provisions and the right to life guaranteed by the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Devaluing the life of unborn children has desensitized our Nation, and I pray we soon wake up and realize the horrors it has done. It is time to stop using taxpayer dollars to fund abortion services and focus on lifesaving resources that value the life of both the mother and the child. The right to life is self-evident, and I will fight to protect it at all costs.

#### REMEMBERING ROBERT KALEIMOMI KEKAULA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. KAHELE) for 5 minutes.